GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:381
ANSWERED ON:22.08.2006
SPECIAL INCENTIVES TO AGRO BASED PRODUCTS .
Joshi Shri Pralhad Venkatesh

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Government has withdrawn the special incentives for export of agro-based products;

(b) If so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) Whether the Government has received representations from various exporters in this regard; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH)

(a) & (b): A special Scheme to promote exports of fruits, vegetables, flowers , minor forest produce and their value added products was announced on 31.08.2004 as Vishesh Krishi Upaj Yojana. The Scheme was revamped and has been renamed as Vishesh Krishi & Gram Udyog Yojana and continues to be in operation for a wider range of products. However, benefits for cashew, pepper and sesamum seed were withdrawn for not being in consonance with the framework of the scheme. Moreover, exports by EOUs have been made ineligible for the benefits for exports from 01.04.2006 as EOUs are in any case set up primarily for exports, with a special package of incentives.

(c) & (d): Representations have been received from Cashew Export Promotion Council, Shellac Export Promotion Council, Mehta Exports, Reitzel India, Sterling Agro Product Processing Pvt. Ltd., Rhodia, Indian Gherkins Exporters Association etc. These have been considered and were not found feasible for restoring the withdrawn benefits.